

NEWSLETTER

American Theological Library Association

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Duke University, Durham, N. C.

Donn Michael Farris, Editor

CONFERENCE NOTES FROM PRESIDENT BEACH

Each member of ATLA should have received an individual invitation to the conference, together with a return postal card for room reservation. These were mailed May 3. An encouraging number of replies have come back thus far. Have you mailed yours? If not, please write to Mr. Robert F. Beach, Librarian, Union Theological Seminary, Broadway at 120th Street, New York 27, New York.

A feature of the conference of unusual interest is the Thursday night dinner honoring Miss Julia Pettee, former Chief Cataloguer of Union, and the person chiefly responsible for the development of the Union Library Classification now in use in nearly fifty theological libraries around the world. In connection with Miss Pettee's coming, the Seminary Library has lithoprinted copies of the basic document giving the theoretical basis of the scheme. This article entitled "A Classification for a Theological Library" appeared in the December 1911 issue of Library Journal and is reproduced through the kindness of the publishers. (Copies will be on sale during the conference at twenty-five cents. --Adv.)

A member asks: Would it be a good idea to have the Proceedings prepared on heavier paper with typing on both sides of the sheet, so as to cut down on the total bulk for future binding? Bring your ideas to New York!

We shall benefit by some advance thinking on the question of where ATLA should meet in 1956. Already in hand are invitations from Southwestern Baptist-Texas Christian (co-invitation) in Fort Worth, Texas, Union Theological Seminary in Richmond, Virginia, and the Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, California. The American Association of Theological Schools has accepted the call to Berkeley for June 20-21, 1956. There is a tradition of our meeting with AATS on the even years, though there is no binding agreement. Members will sense the implications involved in such a choice. Customarily the Association delegates to the incoming Executive Committee, after floor discussion, the final decision on conference location. Your view will be welcomed.

As authorized by the Executive Committee, the Nominating Committee has been appointed as follows: Dr. L. R. Elliott (Chairman), Librarian, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas; Dr. Kenneth S. Gapp, Librarian, Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, New Jersey; and Miss Esther George, Librarian, United Theological Seminary, Dayton, Ohio. The names and addresses of these good servants of the Association have been set down here so that they may have the benefit of your suggestions both before and during the conference.

Two pro-tem committees, one on the Constitution and one on the Newsletter, will be appointed in advance of the conference. The constituency of these committees will be announced at the opening of the conference and the committees will be operating during the conference. Persons in attendance in New York may offer suggestions in person, while non-attendees may send ideas for consideration (concerning the Constitution) to President Beach and (concerning the Newsletter) to Donn Michael Farris, Duke Divinity School Library, Durham, North Carolina.

Finally: Come early! Stay late! With inexpensive seminary housing provided before, during, and after the conference, our conference hosts suggest that as many as can plan to arrive Tuesday evening for a period of "getting settled." If enough promise to do so, we shall anticipate an informal pre-conference social "get-together" in the Seminary Social Hall, adjacent to the dormitory.

ATLA BOOK PUBLISHERS' EXHIBIT

Mr. Alec Allenson, on behalf of ATLA, is arranging for a publishers' exhibit of religious books at the June conference, similar to the highly successful display which he supervised last year in Chicago. At that time more than 400 new books were shown and then made available to member librarians at half price. Letters concerning the coming exhibition have been sent to the publishers and the favorable replies indicate that we may expect another comprehensive display.

Prior to the Conference, lists of the books to be in the exhibit will be mailed to all the member librarians, both to inform them of the selections and to give them an opportunity to place their request for one copy of each title at half price. Members are requested to check their selections and return the list to: Alec R. Allenson, 81 West Van Buren Street, Chicago 5, Illinois. Lists will be numbered as received and priority established in that order. In fairness to the publishers who are making this exhibit possible, participation in the half price plan is contingent upon a member of the library staff being present at the 1955 meeting. Will librarians or their representatives please confirm their orders with the attendant at the book exhibit to make sure that they will be entitled to this special 50% discount arrangement.

Since only one copy of each title is available at half price, provision will be made for members to have their order completed at 20% discount for the balance of titles selected, if desired. This provision is entirely optional and is made so that participating publishers may realize some immediate and tangible results from the exhibit.

Mr. Allenson has arranged that this year the entire proceeds of the sale of books in the exhibit will go to the ATLA treasury. All bills for these books will be payable to the Association treasurer. Only the books ordered in addition to those purchased from the display under the optional arrangement will be sent and charged separately by Mr. Allenson.

CONFERENCE PROGRAM, ATLA, NEW YORK, JUNE 15-17, 1955
(Host: Union Theological Seminary, Robert Beach, Librarian)

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15 (Executive Committee meets at 10:00 a.m.)

REGISTRATION

- 2:00 p.m. - OPENING SESSION, Robert Beach, Presiding
Worship - Brooks Little
Greetings - Dr. Frederick C. Grant
Instructions - Robert Beach
Statement of Conference Aims - Evah Kincheloe
Committee Reports: (1) Microphotography - Turner; (2) Building and
Equipment - Schmidt; (3) Membership - Davis
Opening Business Meeting
Tea
- 7:30 p.m. - EVENING SESSION, Betty Jane Highfield, Presiding
Paper: "Towards a Bibliography on John Calvin" - Roger Nicole
Committee Reports: (1) Personnel and Placement - Schmitt; (2)
Periodical Exchange - Pierson; (3) Periodical Indexing -
Newhall; (4) Helmbold Report - Morris
Report of the World Council of Churches on an International Theo-
logical Bibliography - Stillson Judah
Indexers Meet

THURSDAY, JUNE 16

- 9:00 a.m. - MORNING SESSION, Henry Brimm, Presiding
Worship - Brooks Little
Committee Report: Cataloging and Classification - Eisenhart
Paper: "Relation of the Catalogue to Reference Work" - Miss
Constance M. Winchell
Panel: "Union Classification" - Ruth Eisenhart, Miss Julia Pettee
and others
- 2:00 p.m. - AFTERNOON SESSION, Robert Beach, Presiding
Paper: (Topic to be announced) - Eugene Exman
Round Tables: Cataloging and Classification (Dewey; L.C.; Union)
Business Meeting
All Committees meet unless otherwise notified
- 6:00 p.m. - DINNER HONORING MISS JULIA PETTEE
- 7:30 p.m. - EVENING SESSION, Norman D. Dow, Presiding
Paper: "Libraries, Librarians and Teaching in Theological Schools"
- Daniel D. Williams
Committee Report: Cooperation - Chenery
Workshop on Cooperative Procedures: Frederick L. Chenery and others

FRIDAY, JUNE 17

- 9:00 a.m. - MORNING SESSION, Robert Beach, Presiding
Worship - Brooks Little
Paper: (Topic to be announced) - Dr. R. Pierce Beaver
Closing Business Meeting
- 12:00 noon - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETS AT LUNCH
- Post-Conference Tours

PERSONNEL NOTES

Dr. R. Pierce Beaver has resigned as Director of the Missionary Research Library in New York City, effective June 30, 1955, to accept an appointment as Professor of Missions in the Federated Theological Faculty at the University of Chicago.

Mrs. Helen Schwartz Butz will complete her work at Drexel Library School this spring and will return to her former position as assistant cataloguer at Princeton Theological Seminary about the first of August.

The Reverend Walter G. Hards, who began work as Reference Librarian at Princeton Theological Seminary last October, will continue in the position during the coming year. He will obtain his doctorate in theology this spring from Princeton Theological Seminary, the topic of his thesis being "A Critical Translation and Evaluation of the Nucleus of the 1536 edition of Calvin's Institutes."

Mrs. Evah Kincheloe will resign her position as Librarian of Chicago Theological Seminary and will leave the library profession this fall. Her husband, Dr. Samuel C. Kincheloe, will become president of Tougaloo Southern Christian College in Tougaloo, Mississippi, on January 1, 1956; and the Kincheloes will make their home in Tougaloo, near Jackson, Mississippi, after that date.

Miss Dorothy King, Seminary Librarian at the North Park College and Theological Seminary in Chicago, has resigned effective at the end of the summer to go to a new position at Olivet Nazarene Seminary in Kankakee, Illinois.

Union Theological Seminary in New York City announces the appointment of Mr. John M. McTaggart as Assistant Librarian, effective July 1. Mr. McTaggart served as a Library Assistant in the Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary from 1948 to 1952, and was Assistant Librarian of the Eastern Baptist College during 1952 and 1953. This June he completes his Master's degree at the Library School of Drexel Institute in Philadelphia. He succeeds Mr. Newel E. Davis as Assistant Librarian. Mr. Davis, following two years of service at Union, was appointed to the pastorate of the First Methodist Church at Williamstown, Massachusetts, beginning his pastoral duties earlier this month. He will, however, attend the Ninth Annual Conference of ATLA in June.

Mrs. Doris Wilson Purcell will join the staff of the Boston University School of Theology Library as cataloger on July 1. Mrs. Purcell is a graduate of the University of Rochester, holds the degree of Bachelor of Science in Librarianship from the State College for Teachers in Albany, New York, and is currently engaged in further graduate study at Garrett Biblical Institute, Evanston, Illinois. She is also working part-time in the Garrett Library assisting in its reclassification project. Mrs. Purcell comes to her new position from a background of both college and public library work.

Miss Elizabeth Anne Smith has been appointed librarian in charge of cataloging in the Theological Seminary Library of the University of Dubuque, Dubuque, Iowa. She will assume her new duties on July 1. Miss Smith is the daughter of Presbyterian missionaries in the Belgian Congo and received her early education in Africa. She is a graduate of Queens College, Charlotte, North Carolina, and holds the Master of Librarianship degree from the Division of Librarianship of Emory University. She has served on the staff of the Duke Divinity School Library and the University of Georgia Library, and comes to her new position from the cataloging department of the Mary Washington College Library in Fredricksburg, Virginia.

POSITION OPEN

The position of Librarian of the North Park Theological Seminary in Chicago will be open at the end of the summer. Qualified persons who are interested should communicate with Miss Betty Jane Highfield, Librarian, North Park College, Foster and Kedzie Avenues, Chicago 25, Illinois.

GENERAL THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY EXHIBITIONS

The exhibition at the General Theological Seminary Library in New York City celebrating the quincentennial of the completion of the Gutenberg Bible came to a close on February 20. This exhibition attracted almost three thousand visitors to the Seminary in eight weeks. (The Newsletter sincerely regrets that an error in copying resulted in its February issue reporting that the exhibition attracted only 100 visitors during its first month. The figure should have been 1000.) One hundred and eighteen church groups came by appointment. The librarian and his staff gave extended personal tours to many of the visitors. Part Three of the American Bible Society film Our Bible, entitled "The Making of the English Bible," was shown seventy-four times. A special satisfaction was the opportunity to show the exhibition to several members of ATLA who chanced to be in New York. This exhibition was an educational venture which gave visitors a new sense of the history of the printed Bible. It had a further educational influence through numerous notices in the religious and secular press. It was an example of the use of interesting and important books to instruct the laity, concerning both the Bible and this seminary.

The librarian is also preparing a fairly elaborate exhibition of liturgical books for commencement. This exhibition will be held over for the ATLA conference in June.

BUILDING AND EQUIPMENT NOTES

The major renovation program under way during the past two years at the Yale Divinity School, New Haven, Connecticut, has now been completed. The redesigning of an area formerly devoted to corridors and offices has created a new and enlarged cataloging and work area, a separate periodical reading room, a staff room, and a room with facilities for microfilm.

The utilization of a wing of the gymnasium, joined to the library by a connecting unit, has provided room for forty carrel study spaces, a subsidiary study room, stack space to accommodate an additional 100,000 volumes, a conference room, a smoking room, a washroom and a foyer. In all, the seating capacity of the library has been increased from 127 to 207 places, including 79 individual carrel or cubicle seats.

Through the installation of Compact Storage Shelving, the capacity of existing stack areas has been increased by 40,000 volumes. It is expected that this increased utility of storage space combined with the room for an additional 100,000 volumes in the renovated gymnasium wing will provide space for normal expansion of the library for the next 25 years, including such transfers of material from the central Yale University Library as may be required.

The reading room has been completely redesigned and refurnished with Library Bureau equipment. New compactly designed catalogue cases provide twice the former capacity of cards. New incandescent lighting fixtures provide 38 to 40 foot-candle power at reading level; and new Acousti-Celutex ceilings have been installed to muffle noise.

ATLA members attending the June conference who may be interested in seeing Yale's remodeled and re-equipped library are reminded that New Haven can be reached in an hour and a half by a direct New Haven Railroad train from New York.

Dr. L. R. Elliott, Librarian at Fleming Library, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas, was library consultant at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, North Carolina, last October. He discussed library problems with the faculty, the librarian, and the library committee. The primary purpose of his consultation was to plan the reconstruction of the Wake Forest College Library for future use by Southeastern Seminary. The plans include razing the 1878 portion of the present college library building and replacing it with more adequate construction for administrative, technical and service facilities. The present stack space is adequate. The tentative plans are in the hands of the architect and construction is to begin in the early summer of 1956, immediately after the removal of Wake Forest College to Winston-Salem, North Carolina. The steady growth of the library has been noteworthy in that 16,424 volumes have been cataloged since November 10, 1952.

The Duke University Divinity School in Durham, North Carolina, is adding the final touches to the remodeling of its library begun eleven months ago. Allocation to the library of space formerly devoted to offices and classrooms has made possible a new reading room measuring 27 by 79 feet and additional stack space with a capacity of 50,000 volumes. With these improvements the number of seats in the library has been increased from 36 to 80 and the book storage capacity has been doubled.

The old reading room has been divided to form a new office for the library staff and the Jordan extension library, and a circulation and public catalogue area which is separate from the reading room.

Fluorescent lighting has been installed in all sections of the library including the stacks. Acoustical tile ceilings have been added to all public and office areas; and the reading room has been completely re-furnished. A system of exhaust fans has been installed in the stacks to assist in temperature and humidity control.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

The New Yorker for May 14, 1955, carries an extended article by critic and novelist Edmund Wilson entitled "The Scrolls from the Dead Sea." Mr. Wilson discusses the Palestinian religious background which produced the scrolls, assesses their importance for Biblical scholarship and summarizes (with bibliographical notes) the research which has been done on the scrolls to date. In addition, Mr. Wilson presents much interesting information concerning the discovery and initial reception of the Dead Sea materials which does not usually find its way into the more academic treatments of the subject.

A new quarterly, The Greek Orthodox Theological Review, edited by the Reverend Dr. Nicon D. Patrinos, began publication in August, 1954. It is published by the Greek Orthodox Theological Institute, 50 Goddard Avenue, Brookline, Massachusetts. The only price quoted in Vol. I, No. 1 (the only issue in hand) is: Single copies, \$2.00.

The Committee for the Study of Theological Education in the United States and Canada, appointed by the Executive Committee of the American Association of Theological Schools, issues at irregular intervals a bulletin entitled Theological Education in America. It is edited by Professor H. Richard Niebuhr, the director of the study, and is published "for the sake of keeping deans and faculties of the theological schools and other interested persons and groups informed of the progress of the survey."

The first number appeared in April, 1954, the third and most recent in January, 1955. The bulletin's post office address is: Drawer G, 409 Prospect Street, New Haven 11, Connecticut. There is no subscription fee.

MISCELLANEA

The Christian Librarians Association, regional fellowship group of Southern California, met for its spring session on April 21 at the Bible Institute of Los Angeles, with Dr. Ione Lowman, Librarian, as hostess. A report of the February meeting of the Western Theological Library Association was given by Mr. Elton Shell, Librarian of the School of Religion of the University of Southern California. Mr. George Smizor, Acquisitions Librarian of the University of California, Riverside, discussed foreign sources of purchasing; and Dr. Lowman presented a brief history of the development of the Library of the Bible Institute of Los Angeles. The following officers were elected: President, Mr. Frank Powell, Librarian of Pasadena College; Vice-President, Dr. Arnold D. Ehlert, Librarian of Fuller Seminary; Recording Secretary, Miss Esther Schandorff, Assistant Librarian, Pasadena College.

The General Theological Seminary Library, New York City, has put its classification scheme on mimeograph stencils and has run off a few copies for use within the library. If the permission of the copyright owners can be secured, a larger edition will be mimeographed and will be made available to members of the ATLA who are interested. Bound copies will be available for examination at the ATLA conference.

The Methodist Historical Society in the City of New York has removed its library to Drew University in Madison, New Jersey, where it will be housed in the Drew University Library. Facilities have been provided for it in the James R. Joy alcove in honor of the long-time librarian of the Historical Society. This collection, combined with the Methodist collection already at Drew, makes this library a unique center for the study of the literature and history of Methodism.

Nashotah House Library, Nashotah, Wisconsin, has acquired a collection of material relating to the Oxford Movement, all originally published separately but later collected and uniformly bound in thirty-two octavo volumes. They include miscellaneous tracts and treatises, letters, episcopal charges and sermons, covering such topics as cases of church and state, sacramental doctrine, ritualism and ceremonial, theory of the Church, and a variety of other subjects.

It is practically certain that all of the papers are long out of print. Possession of them will afford Nashotah faculty members and students unusual opportunities for study and research in the period covered.

The Yale University Library served as host institution for the New England College Librarians Annual Meeting on April 22-23. For one of the sessions Professor H. Richard Niebuhr gave an evaluation of the Divinity School Programs under the auspices of the Carnegie Foundation with special emphasis on the library in its relation to the educational process. Following this lecture there was a tour of the recently remodeled library of the Divinity School.

